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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 12, 2014, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2014

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Once again, we come to You to ask wisdom, patience, peace, and understanding for the Members of this people's House. The words and sentiments that have been spoken and heard in these recent days were born of principle, conviction, and commitment.

We ask discernment for the Members, that they might judge anew their adherence to principle, conviction, and commitment, lest they slide uncharitably toward an inability to listen to one another and work cooperatively to solve the important issues of our day.

Give them the generosity of heart and the courage of true leadership to work toward a common solution, with sacrifice on both sides.

Finally, as they return to their respective districts, may they be open to the hopes and desires of their constituents, while being equally attentive to the needs of our Nation at large.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAULSEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 5 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

KIDNAPPING OF SCHOOL GIRLS IN NIGERIA

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, we have all heard about the horrific and evil acts occurring in the country of Nigeria. Hundreds of young girls have been kidnapped by the terrorist group Boko Haram and are currently being held in captivity.

What did these girls do that Boko Haram considered wrong? They simply were attending school.

As the father of four daughters, I can only imagine the anguish the families of these girls are experiencing as their

loved ones are threatened to be sold into slavery. The international community cannot sit idly by while these atrocities occur.

I applaud the steps taken by the administration to send resources to the Nigerian Government to aid with the search, but more can still be done. The President needs to push for Boko Haram to be added to the United Nations Security Council's al Qaeda sanctions list to weaken their power in the region.

Mr. Speaker, whether domestically or internationally, we need to make sure that we remain vigilant against those that wish to harm and exploit young children.

TAX CREDITS

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, in just a few short minutes, we will demonstrate whether this House does or does not have fiscal responsibility.

We ought to extend the research and development tax credit to help businesses invest in innovation—and we ought to do it permanently. But Republicans are asking us to do so without paying for it, which would add \$155 billion to the deficit. Once again, they are ignoring fiscal responsibility when it comes to tax cuts.

In 1981, 2001, and 2003, Republicans passed tax cuts without paying for them, and the outcome every time was predictable—an increase in our debt.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Under President Reagan, it was a 189 percent increase. He could have vetoed any spending bill. Under President George W. Bush, there was an 86 percent increase in the national debt.

Economists agree that tax cuts do not pay for themselves. In 2010, former Reagan budget director David Stockman said this:

This debt explosion has resulted not from big spending by the Democrats but instead the Republican Party's embrace about three decades ago of the insidious doctrine that deficits don't matter if they result from tax cuts.

USA Today says:

House action on "tax extenders" forfeits credibility on deficits and national debt.

They are right.

Vote "no."

SUCCESS AND OPPORTUNITY THROUGH QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS ACT

(Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Success and Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Act.

In this day and age, we must recognize that no single educational model will meet the needs of every child. We need multiple pathways to success that empower educators, parents, and students.

I recently visited the Indiana Math and Science Academy North, a college prep charter school in Indianapolis. IMSA North is helping students like Samuel, who was not being challenged academically at his old school. He moved to IMSA North in 2010 and has been a star student ever since. In fact, he received the sixth-highest score in robotics at this year's First Tech Challenge World Championships. His parents say IMSA has answered their prayers.

This legislation will help more students like Samuel thrive. It provides grants for quality charter schools and gives States the flexibility to support innovative school models. It will ensure charter schools can find suitable facilities and will encourage more collaboration between traditional public schools.

Mr. Speaker, let's give every child access to a great education. Let's pass the Success and Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Act.

HONORING BILL FRANK, JR.

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the Pacific Northwest—and America—lost a true legend.

Billy Frank, Jr., the chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, made his mark on so many people

and so many issues. His legacy on civil rights issues, on ensuring America lives up to its tribal treaty obligations and protecting our natural resources, has touched generations past and present.

When Billy spoke, you listened. We saw that firsthand just 2 weeks ago, when he commanded a room at a tribal summit in my district that included tribal leaders, Federal officials, and the Secretary of the Interior.

After a recent meeting with Billy, I was walking to my car with a member of my staff. Midway there, I said, Hold on for a second. He asked me what was up. I said, Can we just take a minute and appreciate the fact that we got to spend a few hours with an absolute icon.

I will treasure those hours, the entire time I spent with Billy, and the extraordinary work that he did for our region.

There is a Native American proverb that says we should make decisions with an eye toward how they will affect our children seven generations into the future. Billy Frank was the embodiment of that ethos. He will be missed.

HONORING JAN THAYER

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jan Thayer of Grand Island, Nebraska, who passed away on May 3 after a long battle with cancer.

Jan was a successful businesswoman and entrepreneur, a community leader, and a friend to many. During her long career she was recognized with many awards, including The Grand Island Independent newspaper's Woman of the Year, the University of Nebraska's Businesswoman of the Year and Entrepreneur of the Year, and she was named a member of the Nebraska Business Hall of Fame.

These honors are a great testament not only to her tireless work ethic but also to her dedication to her community.

I extend my deepest sympathies to her husband, Ernie, and their family.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jan and the incredible legacy of service and big-heartedness she has left behind.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPETITION AND AMERICAN JOBS IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an issue I think should concern us all.

Americans increasingly rely on high-quality and reasonably priced telecommunications services for almost everything they do. Key to providing that service is a robust and competitive market in wireless communications which drives innovation, keeps costs low, and employs tens of thousands of Americans in good, stable jobs. Safeguarding this competition and these jobs is our responsibility.

With that in mind, I find the actions taken by Sprint over the past year since its acquisition by the Japanese firm SoftBank particularly troubling. In that time, Sprint laid off more than 2,700 call center workers. Almost 900 whom were in my home State of Texas.

Now, rumors exist that Sprint is preparing to buy T-Mobile. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and Assistant Attorney General Bill Baer have expressed strong skepticism about this potential merger because they believe, as I do, that competition drives innovation and lower prices in the marketplace.

Coupled with Sprint's recent layoffs, Congress must take a careful and critical look at this deal, if and when it is announced, and stand up for what is best for American consumers and American jobs.

UNITED WAY ERIE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the work of United Way Erie in Erie County, Pennsylvania, which this month celebrated its 100th annual campaign to eradicate poverty and improve the lives of local individuals and families.

Each year, on average, United Way Erie touches the life of one out of every three residents in Erie County. In 2013, over 100,000 men, women, and children were helped by the United Way and its supporters.

Last year, United Way Erie put forward an ambitious goal, which is to reduce the number of Erie families struggling to meet their basic needs by one-third between now and 2025. As a result of this new initiative, they have raised over \$6.1 million during 2013, which was the largest fundraising campaign ever for United Way Erie.

Mr. Speaker, through bold new ideas and innovative charitable efforts United Way Erie is making a difference. I congratulate them on this 100th campaign anniversary and thank the generations of caring community supporters for their work to help those most in need find a helping hand.

MOTHER'S DAY

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, on Mother's Day, we